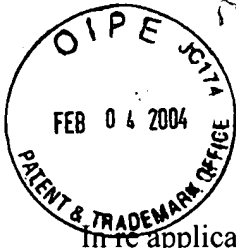


I F W



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
Takahiro NISHI et al.

: Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. NEW 10751476

: Docket No. 2003-1879

Filed January 6, 2004

: Examiner Not Yet Assigned

IMAGE SIGNAL DATA STRUCTURE, IMAGE
CODING METHOD, AND IMAGE DECODING
METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication (*for U.S. National applications filed after June 30, 2003 and International applications that have entered U.S. National Stage after June 30, 2003*), further, a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. 09/824,207.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☒ USPN 5,796,871,
 - b. ☒ a foreign patent office action (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takahiro NISHI et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

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February 4, 2004

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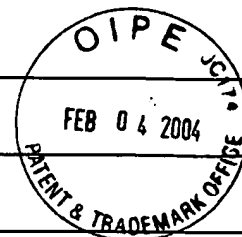
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: February 4, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2003-1879SERIAL NO.
NEWAPPLICANT
Takahiro NISHI et al.FILING DATE
January 6, 2004

GROUP



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,796,871	8/1998	Kawamura et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	1134586a	10/1996	CN			Corresponds to AA
	AK	9261604	10/1997	JP			x
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	Office Action from the Patent Office of the People's Republic of China, "Image Signal Data Structure, Image Coding Method, and Image Decoding Method", App. No. 98121454.1; 11/2003. (With English Translation)
	AP	Office Action from the Patent Office of the People's Republic of China "Image Signal Data Structure, Image Coding Method, and Image Decoding Method", App. No. 01137469.1; 9/2003. (With English Translation)
	AQ	BEST AVAILABLE COPY

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED